

# Building Successful Partnerships Through Parent Engagement



## Migrant Regional Service Center Region 1



**WE ARE** located in northern Indiana and are comprised of nine different counties:



### OUR STUDENTS & FAMILIES

The South Bend Community School Corporation operates the Migrant Regional Service Center in Region 1. This is a Title I, Part C funded program that serves students who move with their families for temporary seasonal work. The Migrant Regional Service Center assists over 290 students.

### OUR MRSC REGION 1 STAFF



Julia Cordova-Gurul , Director; Savino Rivera, Project Manager; Lisa Brooks, Curriculum & PD Specialist; Elizabeth Trevino, Family Specialist; Adrian Martinez, IT/Fiscal/Data Specialist; Alfonso Landeros, ID&R Specialist

**OUR PROMISING PRACTICE** is the implementation of our comprehensive parent engagement plan. This plan is comprised of monthly parent meetings centered on both a Parenting Partner workshop and an educational topic. Parenting Partner workshops focus on developing the parenting and leadership skills parents need to participate in the academic success of their child. Educational topics provide parents with the essential tools needed to make important decisions about their child's education.

Partnering with our parents to develop strong relationships and skills helps minimize any educational gaps their child may have due to the transient lifestyle of a migrant family.

### OUR STEPS

In our meetings the Migrant Regional Service Center team addresses parenting topics that reinforce existing parent skills. Some of the topics discussed are rules, chores, discipline, and creating a safe environment. Parents have taken what they have learned and implemented these skills at home. They have set up rules with their children, they have followed through with consequences, but most importantly, many have taken time to simply listen to their children.

During the first few meetings parent interaction was almost nonexistent. After mastering new skills and getting to know each other, parents now share their personal experiences. They have gained the confidence to speak in public or even to demonstrate some of the skills learned in each of the workshops.

The second component of each meeting focuses on an educational topic. Topics include:

- Reviewing standardized testing in Indiana
- High School Graduation Requirements
- What is an IEP/ILP/504 plan?
- STEM focused family nights, using instructional activities that can be replicated at home.

Parents are also provided with take-home instructional kits composed of bilingual mini-lessons, books, manipulatives and other supplies.

Our family specialist meets with families on a regular basis to review and reinforce the skills learned in each workshop. Our hopes are that having a structured home environment will lead to the success of their children in and out of the classroom!

### IN OUR OWN WORDS

"I really liked that you guys reviewed testing with us and went over ILP's. I didn't know half of the information that you went over. This needs to be done at all our schools. Many of our parents do not understand what a report card means." – Marisa Hernandez

"I want to thank you and everyone that is part of your program, because without you guys my children will not be achieving at the level they are now." - Maria Calleja